

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



Information Letter



FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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Protest Filed Against Change in Classification of Tin Cans

The National Canners Association has filed a protest at hearings conducted by the Official Classification Committee, against the proposal to change the classification of tin cans, in carloads, from fourth class to Rule 26. The proposed change would result in an increase in freight rates in the territory covered by the Official Classification Committee, and might become the basis for similar action in other classification territories. The protest was filed at the direction of the Executive Officers of the Association, who were authorized by the Board of Directors to take such action as might be appropriate in traffic matters affecting the industry as a whole.

Local Canned Foods Week Chairmen Being Rapidly Named

Good progress has been made by the wholesale grocers and brokers in the selection of chairmen and representatives on the local Canned Foods Week committees. Active work was started the week of July 5th, and by July 16th, the headquarters of the National Committee in Washington had received acceptances from 58 wholesale grocers and from 53 brokers. These acceptances cover 105 market centers, and a still larger number of communities tributary to these distributing points.

More About Sealing Fiber Cases

In connection with the item appearing in Information Letter No. 167 with regard to the sealing of fiber cases containing unlabeled products, attention has been called to the fact that Rule 41 of Consolidated Classification No. 4 requires the use of a tape at least two inches in width, and also that the tape extend over the ends of the case at least two and one-half inches.

Argentina Postpones Enforcement of Lacquered Can Requirement

Argentina has postponed for four months the enforcement of that part of the new Argentine packing and labeling law which would require all canned foods having an acid reaction to be packed in containers internally varnished with a non-toxic substance, according to advices received by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

The negotiations looking to the modification or postponement of the enforcement of this law were noted in Information Letter No. 164. It is understood that the other provisions of the law relating to the information that must appear on the labels will be enforced. The labeling provisions require that the label or other adhering mark on the can shall show the name or description of the product in Spanish, the net weight or volume of contents in metric units, the month and year of packing, the country or region of origin, the name and address of the manufacturer and of the Argentine agent, importer or representative. These details may appear in the form of additional labels which can be attached to any part of the package. The date of packing is not required on shipments of biscuits, edible oils, spices, condiments, sirups and fruit juices.

Crabmeat Industry in Japan

The American Consulate at Yokohama reports that the Japanese crabmeat industry has shown great activity within the last year or two. During 1925 there were exported from the port of Yokohama about 1,509,800 dozen cans or bottles of crabmeat, valued at about \$3,887,000. The yield of crabmeat in 1925 was about twice that of any previous year. Crabmeat is extensively used in Japan, but exports are about twice as great as the amount used for home consumption. Most of the exporting takes place from Yokohama.

During the spring of 1925, the price of the "fancy" grade of crabmeat sold to exporters was about \$18.86 for a case of 96 tins. A recent conference is said to have fixed the price for this season at \$21.15 for a case of 96 tins, and \$18.80 for the 48-tin case.

Navy Asks Bids on Canned Foods

The Navy Department is asking for bids, to be opened on September 7, on 230,000 pounds of canned pears, to be delivered as follows: 30,000 pounds at Boston, Mass.; 40,000 pounds at

Brooklyn, N. Y.; 80,000 pounds at Hampton Roads, Va.; 40,000 pounds at Mare Island, Calif.; 40,000 pounds at Puget Sound, Wash. Schedule 5670 on which to submit bids may be obtained from the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

On September 14 the Navy Department will also open bids for canned corn (Schedule 5643), 40,000 pounds for delivery at Boston, 80,000 pounds at Brooklyn, 120,000 pounds at Hampton Roads, and 120,000 pounds at Puget Sound, Wash. On September 21 bids will be opened for canned tomatoes (Schedule 5688), 240,000 pounds for delivery at Boston, 500,000 pounds at Brooklyn, 200,000 pounds at Philadelphia, 800,000 pounds at Hampton Roads, 400,000 pounds at Mare Island, Cal., and 500,000 pounds at Puget Sound, Wash.

Army in Market for Canned Tomatoes

The War Department, through the Quartermaster Supply Officer at Ft. Mason, San Francisco, is asking for bids, to be opened August 14, on 452,160 No. 2½ cans of tomatoes, 1926 pack, in lacquered cans, strapped export cases, and 95,640 cans, 1926 pack, plain cans, commercial wood cases. Copies of Circular No. 27-11-Subs. on which to submit bids can be obtained from the Quartermaster Officer at Ft. Mason, Cal.; 405 Bay Building, Seattle, or Room 310-C, Customhouse, Portland, Ore.

Veterans Bureau Asks Proposals on Canned Foods

The U. S. Veterans Bureau has announced that bids for furnishing and delivering various canned foods will be received by the General Purchasing Agent at Washington up to August 3, the articles included being apples, apricots, yellow cling peaches, Bartlett pears, egg plums, black cherries, red sour pitted cherries, Royal Anne cherries, blackberries, red raspberries, black raspberries, muscat grapes, apple-butter, loganberries, pineapple, figs, prunes, applesauce; raspberry, apricot, and blackberry jam; currant, crab-apple, and grape jelly; cherry, strawberry and peach preserves; orange marmalade, sour, sweet, and dill pickles, catsup, chili sauce. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the General Purchasing Agent, Veterans Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Spain Extends Olive-oil Industry Regulations

Protection has been extended to the Spanish olive-oil industry by a recent Royal decree-law, according to a report to the

Department of Commerce. The law includes the following provisions:

Import prohibition on peanuts, colza seed, sesame seed and soya beans, and on non-drying liquid vegetable oils used for food purposes; importation of cotton seed permitted only by the State Cotton Commission for planting; prohibition against the adulteration or coloring of olive oil, the term "olive oil" or "edible oil" to be used only for pure olive oil; labeling of containers of olive oil to show its purity; and all cottonseed oil to be denatured in Spanish factories before its use is permitted.

Bulletin on The Japanese Beetle

A bulletin of 66 pages on the Japanese beetle has been issued by the Bureau of Entomology of the U. S. Department of Agriculture as Department Circular No. 363. The beetle, introduced into this country in New Jersey some time prior to 1916, has spread until it has infested more than 2,500 square miles in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York. The Government has sent experts into India, China, Japan, Guatemala and other countries to find the beetle's natural enemy, and shipments of certain insects are now due from India.

Corn Sugar Production in 1925

The output of corn sugar in the United States in 1925, according to statistics just issued by the U. S. Census Bureau, was 580,370,000 pounds, valued at \$19,505,000. As compared with the output in 1923 this is a gain of 9.9 per cent in quantity and 16.1 per cent in value.

Imports of canned fruits into Singapore have been steadily increasing, it is reported by the American consulate. The receipts for the first six months of 1926 practically equaled the imports for the entire year 1924. The purchases are made from China, United States and Hongkong, and it is quite probable that part of those credited to Hongkong originated in the United States.

Present indications are that the French prune crop for 1926 will be well above the average and far in excess of 1925, which was below the average.